

N E W S R E L E A S E

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California's nonfarm payroll jobs increase by 96,500 ***Unemployment rate decreases to 12.2 percent***

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate decreased to 12.2 percent in February, and nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 96,500 during the month, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate also decreased in February, to 8.9 percent.

In February 2010, the unemployment rate in California was 12.4 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,055,900 in February, an increase of 96,500 jobs over the month, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 42,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over-year change (February 2010 to February 2011) shows an increase of 196,300 jobs (up 1.4 percent).

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal survey of households, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows an increase in the number of employed people. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in February was 15,917,000, an increase of 12,000 from January, but down 36,000 from the employment total in February of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,202,000 – down by 44,000 over the month, and down by 49,000 compared with February of last year.

(more)

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,055,900 in February, a net gain of 96,500 jobs since the January survey. This followed a gain of 700 jobs (as revised) in January.

Ten categories (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; and other services) added jobs over the month, gaining 97,700 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest increase over the month, adding 39,700 jobs. One category, government, reported job declines this month, down 1,200 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (February 2010 to February 2011), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 196,300 jobs (up 1.4 percent).

Eight industry divisions (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) posted job gains over the year, adding 261,300 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gain on a numerical basis, adding 99,900 jobs (up 4.9 percent). Information posted the largest gain on a percentage basis, up by 5.8 percent (an increase of 24,800 jobs).

Three categories (financial activities; other services; and government) posted job declines over the year, down 65,000 jobs. Government posted the largest decline on both a numerical and percentage basis, down by 62,000 jobs (a decrease of 2.5 percent).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 666,260 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the February survey week. This compares with 603,946 last month and 714,145 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 68,203 in February 2011, compared with 63,331 in January and 63,766 in February of last year.

NOTE TO EDITORS: *EDD encourages those who are filing for Unemployment Insurance benefits to do so online through our Web site at www.edd.ca.gov. Online claim filing is the fastest, most convenient way to apply for benefits, and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	February 2011 (prelim.)	January 2011 (revised)	February 2010	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,055.9	13,959.4	13,859.6	1.4
Mining and logging	27.1	27.0	25.8	5.0
Construction	582.3	566.8	575.9	1.1
Manufacturing	1,250.8	1,247.2	1,241.3	0.8
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,648.5	2,639.4	2,610.3	1.5
Information	449.4	433.9	424.6	5.8
Financial activities	759.9	757.4	760.4	-0.1
Professional and business services	2,145.2	2,105.5	2,045.3	4.9
Educational and health services	1,814.2	1,812.2	1,765.0	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	1,516.9	1,511.0	1,484.9	2.2
Other services	481.5	477.7	484.0	-0.5
Government*	2,380.1	2,381.3	2,442.1	-2.5
Agriculture	381.8	384.1	379.8	0.5

*Includes all civilian employees of federal, state, and local governments.

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	February 2011 (prelim.)	January 2011 (revised)	December 2010	February 2010
Civilian labor force ^a	18,119,000	18,151,000	18,151,000	18,204,000
Total civilian employment	15,917,000	15,905,000	15,878,000	15,953,000
Unemployment	2,202,000	2,246,000	2,273,000	2,251,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	12.2	12.4	12.5	12.4
US seasonally adjusted rate %	8.9	9.0	9.4	9.7

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	February 2011 (prelim.)	January 2011 (revised)	December 2010	February 2010
Civilian labor force ^a	18,049,000	18,104,000	18,098,000	18,188,000
Total civilian employment	15,836,000	15,812,000	15,871,000	15,861,000
Unemployment	2,214,000	2,292,000	2,227,000	2,327,000
Unadjusted rate %	12.3	12.7	12.3	12.8

^a Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

² Seasonal adjustment is a statistical method that removes typical employment patterns that occur at various times throughout the year (e.g., additional retail hiring during the holiday season).

MONTHLY LABOR FORCE DATA FOR COUNTIES
February 2011 (Preliminary); 2010 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,049,300	15,835,700	2,213,600	12.3%
ALAMEDA	744,600	665,200	79,400	10.7%
ALPINE	550	480	70	12.4%
AMADOR	17,100	14,770	2,340	13.7%
BUTTE	104,000	89,200	14,800	14.3%
CALAVERAS	19,550	16,400	3,150	16.1%
COLUSA	11,760	8,570	3,190	27.1%
CONTRA COSTA	517,400	460,400	57,000	11.0%
DEL NORTE	11,470	9,910	1,560	13.6%
EL DORADO	89,300	77,800	11,500	12.9%
FRESNO	435,800	356,600	79,200	18.2%
GLENN	12,410	10,180	2,240	18.0%
HUMBOLDT	60,300	53,300	7,000	11.6%
IMPERIAL	74,300	54,300	20,000	26.9%
INYO	9,510	8,520	990	10.4%
KERN	359,400	298,100	61,300	17.0%
KINGS	60,500	49,600	10,900	18.0%
LAKE	24,420	19,740	4,680	19.2%
LASSEN	13,420	11,340	2,080	15.5%
LOS ANGELES	4,886,000	4,286,400	599,600	12.3%
MADERA	66,200	55,400	10,900	16.4%
MARIN	129,800	119,700	10,100	7.8%
MARIPOSA	9,040	7,700	1,340	14.9%
MENDOCINO	41,860	36,780	5,080	12.1%
MERCED	107,000	84,200	22,800	21.3%
MODOC	4,010	3,350	660	16.5%
MONO	9,430	8,670	760	8.1%
MONTEREY	207,800	172,600	35,200	16.9%
NAPA	71,800	64,400	7,400	10.3%
NEVADA	50,180	44,500	5,680	11.3%
ORANGE	1,570,100	1,430,000	140,000	8.9%
PLACER	173,400	153,600	19,800	11.4%
PLUMAS	9,920	7,920	2,000	20.2%
RIVERSIDE	901,000	773,900	127,100	14.1%
SACRAMENTO	659,900	576,900	83,000	12.6%
SAN BENITO	27,000	21,300	5,600	20.9%
SAN BERNARDINO	843,700	728,500	115,200	13.7%
SAN DIEGO	1,553,600	1,396,900	156,700	10.1%
SAN FRANCISCO	452,400	411,300	41,100	9.1%
SAN JOAQUIN	307,100	253,000	54,100	17.6%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	136,000	122,800	13,300	9.8%
SAN MATEO	367,000	336,700	30,300	8.3%
SANTA BARBARA	217,100	196,200	20,900	9.6%
SANTA CLARA	869,700	780,500	89,100	10.3%
SANTA CRUZ	148,100	126,400	21,700	14.6%
SHASTA	82,500	68,700	13,800	16.7%
SIERRA	1,540	1,260	290	18.5%
SISKIYOU	18,820	14,930	3,890	20.7%
SOLANO	211,400	185,800	25,600	12.1%
SONOMA	253,000	227,200	25,800	10.2%
STANISLAUS	237,100	194,200	42,900	18.1%
SUTTER	42,100	32,700	9,400	22.4%
TEHAMA	24,690	20,670	4,020	16.3%
TRINITY	5,180	4,130	1,050	20.3%
TULARE	208,800	171,100	37,700	18.1%
TUOLUMNE	25,100	21,440	3,660	14.6%
VENTURA	428,500	383,900	44,600	10.4%
YOLO	98,300	83,600	14,700	15.0%
YUBA	27,400	22,000	5,300	19.5%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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